



UXBRIDGE

Worcester County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Uxbridge lies on the southern border of Massachusetts at the Rhode Island line. The community is industrial, agricultural and residential in nature and both the Blackstone River, two of its major tributaries and several large brooks run through town. Established as a town in 1727, Uxbridge's bountiful water power provided the basis for large scale industrial development beginning as early as 1775. Uxbridge was the site of a Nipmuck Indian village as well as of one of the Christian Indian settlements established to protect Indian converts. Quakers from Rhode Island established a colony in the town and built the earliest meetinghouse in Uxbridge in 1770, a building which still survives. Residents established the Uxbridge Social and Instructive Library in 1775 and a grammar school in 1788. Good quality iron ore, which had been mined since the 1730's, supported a forge and a triphammer. In that era the town was primarily a prosperous agricultural settlement with dispersed farms, but it was also the site of saw and grist mills and a gin distillery. In 1800, textile manufacturing had been introduced when Daniel Day erected a small carding and spinning mill, which was the second textile mill on the Blackstone River and the third one in the state. Capron Mills in 1820 introduced power loom weaving of woolen cloth in their factory on the Mumford River, the first such looms ever constructed. In 1827, major industrial complexes such as the massive granite Crown and Eagle Mills assumed great economic importance. The Crown and Eagle boasted a large-scale water power system and clusters of worker's duplexes. But agriculture remained a basic component of the town's economy and residents also grew grain and potatoes, managed apple orchards, dairy farms and cattle herds. Settlers traded their agricultural produce and manufactured and forest products for foreign goods in Providence and their commercial ties with that city were strong. The Blackstone Canal, completed in 1828, facilitated the transport of agricultural goods, raw materials and finished products to all points between Worcester and Providence. Since Uxbridge was halfway between the two, it became an overnight stopping place for canal boats. Immigration grew, primarily of people from Ireland, to work the mills and make shoes and boots and by 1855, 560 people produced 2.5 million yards of cotton and woolen cloth in Uxbridge mills. The town's stone quarries produced the stone to rebuild Boston after the Great fire, and during the Civil War several of the town's mills ran on 24-hour shifts to fill government orders. In the First World War the town's economy boomed again as the mills worked to produce khaki overcoat cloth for America, France and Italy. As late as 1983, Calumet Mill was still making fancy woolens in Uxbridge. The town retains over 60 handsome Federalist houses as a legacy of its history. Seal supplied by community.



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southern Massachusetts, bordered by Northbridge on the north; Mendon and Millville on the east; Burrilville and North Smithfield, Rhode Island on the south; and Sutton and Douglas on the west. Uxbridge is about 15 miles south of Worcester; 38 miles southwest of Boston; 25 miles north of Providence, Rhode Island; and 175 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 30.38 sq. miles

Land Area: 29.55 sq. miles

Population: 10,415

Density: 352 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(West Medway Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....70.8°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.6"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Uxbridge, Blackstone

Regional Planning Agency

Central Massachusetts

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Worcester



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 278-8608

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1727

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
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Total Registered 5,838

Democrats 1,892 32.4 %

Republicans 765 13.1 %

Other parties 6 .0 1%

Unenrolled Voters 3,175 54.4 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Uxbridge town, Worcester County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population	11,158	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population	11,158	100.0
Male	5,479	49.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	106	1.0
Female	5,677	50.9	Mexican	18	0.2
Under 5 years	889	8.0	Puerto Rican	34	0.3
5 to 9 years	971	8.7	Cuban	4	-
10 to 14 years	931	8.3	Other Hispanic or Latino	50	0.4
15 to 19 years	666	6.0	Not Hispanic or Latino	11,050	99.0
20 to 24 years	448	4.0	White alone	10,855	97.3
25 to 34 years	1,597	14.3	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years	2,319	20.8	Total population	11,158	100.0
45 to 54 years	1,441	12.9	In households	11,141	99.9
55 to 59 years	462	4.1	Householder	3,988	35.7
60 to 64 years	327	2.9	Spouse	2,552	22.9
65 to 74 years	571	5.1	Child	3,817	34.2
75 to 84 years	413	3.7	Own child under 18 years	3,080	27.6
85 years and over	121	1.1	Other relatives	375	3.4
Median age (years)	35.3	(X)	Under 18 years	124	1.1
18 years and over	7,899	70.8	Nonrelatives	409	3.7
Male	3,791	34.0	Unmarried partner	195	1.7
Female	4,108	36.8	In group quarters	15	0.1
21 years and over	7,603	68.2	Institutionalized population	-	-
62 years and over	1,295	11.6	Noninstitutionalized population	15	0.1
65 years and over	1,105	9.9	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male	424	3.8	Total households	3,988	100.0
Female	681	6.1	Family households (families)	3,036	76.1
RACE			With own children under 18 years	1,638	41.1
One race	11,078	99.3	Married-couple family	2,552	64.0
White	10,937	98.0	With own children under 18 years	1,371	34.4
Black or African American	17	0.2	Female householder, no husband present	362	9.1
American Indian and Alaska Native	15	0.1	With own children under 18 years	208	5.2
Asian	68	0.6	Nonfamily households	952	23.9
Asian Indian	30	0.3	Householder living alone	767	19.2
Chinese	19	0.2	Householder 65 years and over	340	8.5
Filipino	5	-	Households with individuals under 18 years	1,731	43.4
Japanese	1	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over	832	20.9
Korean	6	0.1	Average household size	2.79	(X)
Vietnamese	1	-	Average family size	3.22	(X)
Other Asian ¹	6	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	8	0.1	Total housing units	4,090	100.0
Native Hawaiian	1	-	Occupied housing units	3,988	97.5
Guamanian or Chamorro	1	-	Vacant housing units	102	2.5
Samoan	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	6	0.1	occasional use	10	0.2
Some other race	33	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)	0.4	(X)
Two or more races	78	0.7	Rental vacancy rate (percent)	2.9	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units	3,988	100.0
White	11,011	98.7	Owner-occupied housing units	3,139	78.7
Black or African American	32	0.3	Renter-occupied housing units	849	21.3
American Indian and Alaska Native	41	0.4	Average household size of owner-occupied units	3.00	(X)
Asian	82	0.7	Average household size of renter-occupied units	2.05	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	12	0.1			
Some other race	60	0.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State	136
Conventional Federal	0

Rental Assistance (DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP)	0
Federal (Section 8)	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Uxbridge is located in the Blackstone River Valley, which played a major role in early American industrial development due to its natural resources and strategic location between Worcester and Providence. Situated between Interstates 90, 395, and 495, the Blackstone Valley today has good highway and rail access to the ports, airports, and intermodal facilities of Worcester, Providence, and Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 122, which links key towns along the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, and State Route 146 running N.W.-S.E. between Worcester and Providence, Rhode Island.

Rail

The Providence and Worcester Railroad provides freight rail service to Uxbridge. Contact number: (508) 755-4000 ext. 310

Bus

Uxbridge is not affiliated with a regional transit authority.

Other

The Worcester Municipal Airport, a Primary Commercial (PR) facility with scheduled passenger service, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 5,500' and 6,999' long. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.